Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRIDGE 02004 231600Z ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IGA-02 /099 W

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R 221953Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3452
USUN NEW YORK 345
INFO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN
AMEMBASSY KINGSTON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

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E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: PDEV, PFOR, EAID, BB

SUBJ: BARBADOS TO CHAMPION OTHER EAST CARRIBBEAN STATES

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1415 (NOTAL)

1. EXTERNAL AFFAIRS MINISTER HENRY FORDE HAS SAID THE GOB WILL PROPOSE A RESOLUTION IN THE COMING UNGA TO LAUNCH A NEW INITIATIVE FOR ECONOMIC AND OTHER ASSISTANCE TO THE COLONIAL AND ASSOCIATED STATES OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN IN ORDER TO BOLSTER BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE AND HASTEN THEM TO INDEPENDENCE. FORDE SAID THE LDC'S (LESSER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES) ARE IN A SERIOUS FINANCIAL CRISIS AND NEED MASSIVE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS SUPPORT.

2. SPECIFICALLY, FORDE MENTIONED LDC ACCESS TO INTERNATIONAL AID INSTITUTIONS DESPITE THE LDC'S NON-INDEPENDENT STATUS AND DEVELOPMENT AID FROM COUNTRIES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BRIDGE 02004 231600Z

WHICH ARE BETTER OFF IN THE CARIBBEAN, IN NORTH AMERICA AND OUTSIDE THE AREA AS CONTRIBUTORS TO THIS INITIATIVE.

3. FORDE SAID GOB UN AMBASSADOR DONALD BLACKMAN WOULD LOBBY OTHER THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES AT THE UN AND THAT HE WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO COSPONSORSHIP BY OTHER CARIBBEAN MDC'S (MORE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES). FORDE IS

SCHEDULED TO ADDRESS THE UNGA ON OCTOBER 4.

4. COMMENT: BARBADOS HAS AN UNEVEN HISTORY OF POSING AS THE CHAMPION OF THE LDC'S, MOST RECENTLY AT THE GRENADA OASGA (REFTEL) BUT GOING BACK TO THE BRIEF GATHERING OF THE LDC'S AROUND BARBADOS IN THE WAKE OF THE DEFUNCT WEST INDIES FEDERATION. FORDE'S PROPOSAL CAME THE DAY AFTER AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND PARTY DEPARTED BARBADOS. THE GOB CONSIDERED IT IMPORTANT ENOUGH TO MENTION TO THE YOUNG DELEGATION DURING MEETINGS ON AUGUST 16 EVEN THOUGH THE PROPOSAL TENDS TO FOCUS ATTENTION ON THE MORE URGENT NEEDS OF THE LDC'S AS OPPOSED TO BARBADOS. THE USG HAS IMPLICITLY EMPHASIZED THIS DISPARITY IN ITS ECONOMIC APPROACH TO THE REGION, SOMETHING FOR WHICH THE GOB HAS CRITICIZED US. END COMMENT.

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Message Attributes

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Concepts: ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE

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Subject: BARBADOS TO CHAMPION OTHER EAST CARRIBBEAN STATES

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